

CLAIMS

1. Peptides binding MHC class II molecules selected from the group consisting of:

- 5 a) EALGLVGAQAPATEE
b) RKVAELVHFLLLKYR
c) GNWQYFFPVIFSKAS
d) FFPVIESKASSSLQL
e) SSLQLVEGIELMEVD
10 f) VGFIELMEVDPIGHL
g) PIGHLYIFATCLGLS
h) GDNQIMPKAGLLIIV
i) VQENYLEYRQVPGSD
j) TSYVKVLHBMVKISG
15 k) VLHBMVKISGGPHIS

2. Monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies directed to peptides of claim 1.

3. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a peptide of claim 1 together with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

4. A composition as claimed in claim 3, further comprising one or more peptides binding MHC class I molecules corresponding to CTL CD8⁺ epitopes.

5. A composition as claimed in claims 3 and 4, for use as a vaccine.

6. A method for inducing an immune response against tumor cells expressing a MAGE-3 antigen, which method comprises contacting APC cells with the peptides of claim 1 in suitable conditions for the activation of effector CD4⁺ T cells.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein autologous APC are loaded with the peptides and subsequently

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contacted with purified CD4⁺ lymphocytes.

8. The use of the peptides of claim 1 for the preparation of an anti-tumor medicament.

5 9. The use as claimed in claim 8, wherein said medicament is a vaccine.

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